

June 30, 2000

MPR 9-00

Corn and Soybeans Acreage Increased from '99

Maryland: Growers planted 480,000 acres of corn for 2000, which is 10,000 acres higher than 1999 and 1998's level of 470,000 acres. The current harvest level for corn for grain this year is set at 400,000 acres. Maryland farmers are expected to plant 500,000 acres of soybeans this year, up two percent from last year, and up six percent from 1998. The current harvested acres forecast is 490,000 acres which is an increase of 10,000 acres from last year's level of 480,000 acres.

For small grains, winter wheat planting is estimated at 220,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from 1999's level of 215,000 acres, but down 5,000 acres from the 225,000 acres recorded in 1998. Wheat is expected to be harvested from 205,000 acres. Barley planted acreage is estimated at 55,000 acres which indicates no change from the 1999 level. The expected barley harvest for 2000 is set for 50,000 acres.

For tobacco, 6,000 acres are forecasted to be harvested, 500 acres lower than last year's and 1998's harvest of 6,500 acres, and a record low acreage harvested. Potato growers planted 4,800 acres, unchanged from 1999. Farmers expect to harvest 4,700 potato acres this year. All hay acreage is estimated at 230,000 acres, up 20,000 acres from the level reported last year. Expected harvested acreage of alfalfa hay is 60,000 harvested acres, unchanged from 1999, and other hay is expected to be harvested from 170,000 acres, 20,000 acres higher than 1999's level.

United States:

Corn planted for all purposes is estimated at 79.6 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 73.1 million acres for grain, up 4 percent from 1999. The corn acreage estimate was based on survey information collected between May 30 and June 19. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 99 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared to an average of 96 percent for the past ten years.

The soybean planted area is estimated at 74.5 million acres, 1 percent above last year's acreage. Area for harvest is estimated at 73.5 million acres, up 1 percent from 1999. If realized, this will be the largest planted and harvested acreage on record. Planted acreage has consistently increased every year since 1990 when the soybean planted area totaled 57.8 million acres. Of the 31 soybean estimating States, growers in 16 States increased acreage, while growers in 14 States reduced area planted. West Virginia acreage estimates are included for the first time.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 62.9 million acres, up slightly from 1999. Harvested area is expected to total 54.4 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.

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Acreage, Yield, and Production 1999 and 2000

Crop	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Yield		Production	
		1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
Maryland		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	470	480	---	---	---	---	---	---
Corn Grain	BU	---	---	360	400	93	⁴	33,480	⁴
Corn Silage	TON	---	---	100	⁵	11	⁵	1,100	⁵
Soybeans	BU	490	500	480	490	30	⁴	14,400	⁴
Sorghum	BU	---	17	---	15	---	⁴	---	⁴
Winter Wheat	BU	215	220	200	205	60	62	12,000	12,710
Barley	BU	55	55	50	50	80	³	4,000	³
All Hay	TON	---	---	210	230	2.51	⁴	528	⁴
Alfalfa Hay	TON	---	---	60	60	2.8	⁴	168	⁴
Other Hay	TON	---	---	150	170	2.4	⁴	360	⁴
Tobacco	LBS	---	---	6.5	6.0	1,400	⁴	9,100	⁴
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	240	³	1,128	³
United States								<i>1,000,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	77,431	79,579	---	---	---	---	---	---
Corn Grain	BU	---	---	70,537	73,088	133.8	---	9,437	---
Corn Silage	TON	---	---	6,062	---	15.9	---	96	---
Sorghum	BU	9,288	8,805	8,544	8,110	69.7	---	---	---
Soybeans	BU	73,780	74,501	72,476	73,474	36.5	---	2,643	---
Wheat, Winter	BU	43,431	43,349	35,572	35,401	47.8	46.7	1,700	1,622
Barley	BU	5,223	5,702	4,758	5,235	59.2	---	595	---
All Hay	TON	---	---	63,160	62,181	2.52	---	159	---
Alfalfa Hay	TON	---	---	23,985	23,767	3.5	---	84	---
Other Hay	TON	---	---	39,175	38,414	1.92	---	75	---
Tobacco	LBS	---	---	647.2	493.8	1,997	---	1,293	---
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	68.1	64.8	63.9	62.7	298	295	19	---

^{1/} Acres planted is for all purposes.

^{2/} Revised.

^{3/} Published July 12, 2000

^{4/} Published August 11, 2000

^{5/} Published January 2001